

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 11 of 1885.]

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 14th March 1885.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong	700	4th March 1835.
2	"Tripurá Vártavaha"	Comillah	.....
3	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
4	"Alok"	Calcutta	.....
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto	700	9th ditto.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	102	6th ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto	12,000	14th ditto.
8	"Bártábaha"	Pubna	.....
9	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal	450	
10	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh	625	
11	"Bardwán Sanjívani"	Burdwan	296	10th ditto.
12	"Bikrampore Patriká"	Dacca	756	
13	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	2nd ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca	425	8th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	800	6th ditto.
16	"Grámvartá Prakashiká"	Comercolly	500	7th ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakashiká"	Calcutta	.....
18	"Hindu Ranjika"	Beauleah, Rajshahye	200	
19	"Játiya Suhrid"	Calcutta	700	
20	"Medini"	Midnapore	500	
21	"Mussulman Bandhu"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....	9th ditto.
22	"Murshidabad Patriká"	Bernampore	437	
23	"Murshidabad Pratimidhi"	Ditto	.....
24	"Navavibhakar"	Calcutta	850	9th ditto.
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	440	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
26	"Patáká"	Calcutta ... ..	.....	6th March 1885.
27	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore	900	6th ditto.
28	"Prántavási"	Chittagong	600	
29	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	600	6th ditto.
30	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beaulah ... ..	.....
31	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore	220	
32	"Sádháraní"	Calcutta	500	8th ditto.
33	"Sahachar"	Ditto	500	4th ditto.
34	"Samaya"	Ditto	1,500	9th ditto.
35	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	4,000	7th ditto.
36	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca	345	
37	"Shakti"	Calcutta ... ..	.....
38	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	9th ditto.
39	"Sulabha Samáchar"	Calcutta	3,000	28th February and 7th March 1885.
40	"Surabhi"	Ditto	700	10th March 1885.
41	"Udbodhan"	Ditto ... ..	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
42	"Dainik Vártá"	Calcutta	450	
43	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	225	9th to 13th March 1885.
44	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	9th to 13th ditto.
45	"Samachar Chandriká"	Ditto	625	4th to 11th ditto.
46	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto	520	6th, 7th and 10th to 12th March 1885.
47	"Prabháti"	Ditto	1,000	7th to 12th March 1885.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
48	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ... ..	.....
49	"Bharat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	12th March 1885.
50	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto	500	9th ditto.
51	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto	300	7th ditto.
52	"Hindi Samáchar"	Bhagulpore	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta	250	6th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Gauhur"	Calcutta	100	
55	"Sharaf-ul-Aklibar"	Behar	250	
<i>Daily.</i>				
56	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	8th, 10th, 11th, 13th & 14th March 1885.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
57	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	340	
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
58	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ... ..	.....
59	"Assam News"	Ditto	450	
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
60	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack	250	21st February 1885.
61	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	24th ditto.
62	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto	116	19th ditto.
63	"Sebaka"	Cuttack	200	25th ditto.
<i>Monthly.</i>				
64	"Taraka"	Ditto ... ..	.....
65	"Shiksábandhu"	Ditto ... ..	.....	March 1885.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
66	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna	400	February.
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
67	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ... ..	.....

POLITICAL.

THE *Sahachar*, of the 4th March, says that the boast of ambitious Russian Generals like Soboleff that it is not difficult for Russia to invade India is ridiculous.

Russia and England.

The Editor knows that foreign conquerors entered India in former times. But he does not believe that what was possible then is also possible now. Circumstances are now altered. Dissensions in India will no longer help foreign invaders. The power of the Indian Princes has diminished, but their loyalty has increased. All the Native Princes are now ready to sacrifice their lives for the defence of the Queen's Indian Empire. The 250 millions of Indians do not yield to Englishmen in loyalty to the Queen. There is still heroism in India. The name of Gurkha and Sikh still makes enemies tremble. The English Government is not incautious. The eastern and north-western frontiers of India are strongly garrisoned. There are also the English warships on the sea. No one is strong enough to enter British India. The boast of Russians like Soboleff is vain; nor is the Editor frightened by the gloomy forebodings of Marvins and Vamberys. The writer firmly believes that the English will remain masters of India. But though there is no fear of a successful Russian invasion of India, the English Government should adopt precautions, and not allow the enemy to gain any advantage. If Afghanistan is even in the least degree accessible to Russians, the consequences may be ruinous. Let Lord Dufferin welcome cordially and respectfully the Amir of Afghanistan, and increase in his heart the reverence for Englishmen, and let Government, by repealing the Arms Act, prove its trust in the countless millions of Indians, among whom 50 millions are capable of bearing arms, and let it also show affection to Indians, and the Indian Empire will be impregnable to Russian invasion.

SAHACHAR,
March 4th, 1885.

2. The same paper says that Russia is aware that Herat is in possession of the Amir, who is a friend of the English; and that the occupation of Herat

The boundary question.

by her will be injurious to English interests, and will be opposed by the English Government. If after knowing this she makes efforts for the occupation of Herat, it must be said that she is desirous of fighting with the English; but the writer does not believe that Russia means to occupy Herat. Russia says that she has occupied Turkistan; that she is desirous of maintaining the former boundary line between Turkistan and Afghanistan; that the cause of the dispute is the objection of the Amir to the fixing of that boundary; and that if England encourages the Amir, she will be responsible for the quarrel. These words of Russia savour of some haughtiness. But if the Amir, encouraged by England, defies Russia, very bad result will follow. The Editor recommends that the Amir should be made to understand the present difficult position, and warned. The Editor believes that Lord Dufferin will do so. The English Government should show friendliness towards Russia. It should now invite Russia to co-operate in the work of fixing the boundary. If Russia does not come after such an invitation, Sir Peter Lumsden may return.

SAHACHAR.

3. The same paper says that now the question is, what offence has the Mahdi committed against England.

The Soudan war.

England can surely crush the Mahdi if she pleases. But what will she do after that? The Mahdi is fighting for saving his country from a hateful despotism. The writer says that if the Mahdi conquers not only Egypt but also the whole Turkish Empire, the Mussulmans of India will not be at all excited. There is no necessity for a war in the Soudan for preventing danger in India. No more disturbances will be created in India by the Mahdi's conquests than in Scotland.

SAHACHAR.

Though General Gordon was an unrivalled hero, he was no statesman. Who will say whether this bloodshed is due to him or to the Mahdi? Had not General Gordon gone to Khartoum, a quarrel would not have broken out between England and the Mahdi. A war in the Soudan is not necessary for the preservation of prestige. Ten ten thousand Arab soldiers fled before 1,500 English troops. They are not worthy foes for England in battle. England is not bound to waste blood and treasure for the sake of the Khedive. When General Gordon is dead, the English troops should be withdrawn from the Soudan.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 5th, 1885.

4. The *Samachar Chandrika*, of the 5th March, says that many Englishmen recommend the reduction of the number of the troops of the Native Princes

owing to distrust; but the Native Princes are devotedly loyal to the English Government. The instances in which good will has been shown to the British Government by these Princes are not rare. At the time of the Afghan war, the Maharajah of Kashmir and other Native Princes were eager to assist Government with their troops. Now the Nizam has expressed his desire of sending his troops to the Soudan.

ARYA DARPAN,
March 6th, 1885.

5. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 6th March, says that a war with Russia seems to be inevitable, as the English Government has advised the Amir to resist

any further advance on the part of Russia. Russia is anxious to secure Herat, and Russians are not likely to return when they have advanced almost to its gates. But if they persist in their advance the Amir will resist, and the English will have to support their ally. Russia has taken advantage of the difficulties of England in the Soudan to assume a threatening attitude in Central Asia.

ARYA DARPAN.

6. The same paper says that the Gladstone Ministry is tottering. There will soon be an appeal to the nation. If the nation chooses to return the Liberals, Mr. Gladstone will again become the Premier, but if it return a large number of Conservatives the party of Sir Stafford Northcote will come to power. But the Conservatives are not very powerful, and liberal ideas are more prevent in England than conservative ideas.

PRAJABANDHU,
March 6th, 1885.

7. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 6th March, says that the English have offered a very fine opportunity to Russia to extend her possession towards Afghanistan by sending their best troops from India to the Soudan. The English portion of the Boundary Commission has gone to its destination, but the Russian portion does not yet make its appearance. On the other hand it has been given out that the work of delimitation cannot be properly done owing to the presence of the English, because the tribes are becoming friendly to them. Now if the English withdraw from the work, the case of Afghanistan becomes hopeless, and there is no way of making an amicable settlement with the Russians. If the Amir does not get any help from the English, he will fall into the hands of Russia.

PRATIKAR,
March 6th, 1885.

8. The *Pratikar*, of the 6th March, says that a meeting of the Viceroy and the Amir has become absolutely necessary, inasmuch as the intentions of Russia do not appear to be friendly. Still the writer thinks that Russia should be requested to withdraw her troops in the first instance, for there is no necessity for a quarrel if the object in view can be attained by pacific measures.

PRATIKAR.

9. The same paper says that there is no good in fighting with the Madhi, and thereby causing a great loss in men and money at this critical time. The conquest of the Soudan, which is a desert, will be of no earthly use to the English.

The only object of the Soudan war seems to be to wreak vengeance on the Madhi.

10. The *Grámvártá Prakáshiká*, of the 7th March, asks the English to put a stop to the Soudan war, since they have no intention of conquering

GRAMVARTÁ
PRAKASHIKÁ,
March 7th, 1885.

Egypt. 11. The *Sanjivani*, of the 7th March, is glad to notice that the Government of Mr. Gladstone has not been defeated in connection with the recent vote

SANJIVANI,
March 7th, 1885.

of censure. It will be still more glad when the Soudan will be evacuated.

12. The *Sádháraní*, of the 8th March, says that Government should not carry on the iniquitous Soudan war. The death of General Gordon is a loss for

SADHARANI,
March 8th, 1885.

which nothing can compensate. The General on the eve of his departure from England said that he would not probably return, and expressed the desire that his death should not be avenged. The English will shew their nobleness if they act according to the deceased hero's desire. To abandon greediness and desire for revenge and to retire altogether from the Soudan is the best policy.

13. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 9th March, says that Government should abolish the system of keeping Residents in the Courts of Native Princes, inasmuch as mischief is being produced by it. Owing to there being Residents the Princes cannot do anything freely. The Ministers of the Princes also often succeed in gaining their own selfish ends by prevailing upon the Resident to support them which they would otherwise be unable to obtain with the permission of the Prince. The writer says that if Government distrusts the Native Princes, it may form a Council in each Native State consisting of the chief officials who will be appointed by the Prince with the permission of Government, and a Superintendent who will be appointed by Government to carry on the work of administration. By this arrangement Government will be kept as completely informed of what is passing in those States as now when there are Residents, and the subjects of those Princes also will be benefited.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
March 9th, 1885.

14. The *Prabháti*, of the 9th March, still entertains the hope that the Afghan boundary will be amicably settled. The English should act calmly. The English will now learn the value of the armies of the Native Princes. The Native Princes are eager to send troops to the Soudan to fight for the English. The English Government has 200,000 soldiers. If it takes half the number of troops of native states that will amount to about 200,000. Thus England can collect 400,000 soldiers in no time.

PRABHATI,
March 9th, 1885.

15. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 9th March, remarks that the Government of India would be acting very unwisely at this time when it has become exceedingly necessary for it to increase the strength of India by keeping Native Princes contented, if, in deference to the irresponsible clamour of Anglo-Indians and their advocates in the press, it should make up its mind to interfere in the affairs of Cashmere. The Maharajah is perfectly aware that to whatever State English merchants have gone, they have brought ruin upon it.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 9th, 1885.

16. The *Samaya*, of the 9th March, says that the object of the Viceroy's interview with the Amir seems to be to enable the English with the Amir's permission to temporarily occupy Herat, and to station 10,000 troops there. England meets Russia in Central Asia, not as a civilized neighbour, but as an enemy.

SAMAYA,
March 9th, 1885.

This is much to be regretted. The writer does not understand why England wants to quarrel with Russia because she has made her appearance on the frontiers of Afghanistan. England seems to be afraid that Russia will accomplish the conquest of India as soon as she comes near it. But England will have nothing to fear if she treats her Indian subjects well, and if, instead of drawing all the resources of India to England, she uses them for its benefit. England keeps three lakhs of troops at an expense of 17 crores, while Germany keeps 12 lakhs of troops at the same cost. Provision is so cheap in India that if England spends the 17 crores in India she can maintain an army of 15 lakhs of men. But instead of doing good to India, England is continually extorting money from her. India has grown so poor that in many places people die for the sheer want of food. If England places her confidence in the natives of India, if she changes her policy towards them, if she makes the Native Princes her friends, she will have nothing to fear from Russia. It is a mistake to think that India was conquered with the sword. Natives like the English because of their impartiality in administering justice. With the people of India to back her, England has nothing to fear. There is no necessity of quarrelling with Russia for Herat. England should give up the idea of occupying Herat.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 9th, 1885.

17. The *Navavibhākār*, of the 9th March, says that in English maps Julfgur and Panjdeh are shown as situated on the common frontier of Afghanistan and the

Russian Empire. But Russia says that the English maps are not correct, and that the Paropimismus Range to the north of Herat is the southern boundary of her Empire. This is the cause of the disputes in connection with the settlement of the boundary. When the English Government is not inclined to allow the above claim of Russia, the disputes should be amicably settled. The English member of the Delimitation Commission, Sir Peter Lumsden, has advised the Afghans to resist the advance of Russia. The Afghans are very easily excitable. If emboldened by the encouragement of Sir Peter Lumsden, the Afghans defy Russia and a war breaks out, the English Government will be responsible for it. The Amir is to come to Rawul Pindie in the first week of April. But if, in the meantime, a war breaks out between Russia and Afghanistan on the Afghan frontier, the Amir should not come. Russians are still far distant from Herat. Where is again the reason of so much fear when Russians have not a large army with them? Where was also the necessity of inciting the Afghans? The English and the Afghans fear lest Russians should advance beyond the Russian frontier. Russia also fears lest England should give a portion of the Russian territory to Afghanistan. There is fear on both sides. Russia will never think that because England is entangled in the Soudan difficulties she will not offer resistance. Russia will not easily engage in a war with England. But when one is excited one cannot act cautiously. If Russia considers that the English are insulting her, and are deliberately inciting the Afghans to a quarrel, Russia will be excited. Consequently, it should be seen that Russia may not pick out any hole in the conduct of the English Government.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

18. The same paper says that if a war breaks out between England and Russia owing to disputes regarding the boundary, the English will be ultimately victorious. There is no probability of the defeat of those who have the 250 millions of Indians to support them. England can defeat Russia with the aid of Indian soldiers alone. India, even after furnishing soldiers for service in the Soudan, can furnish soldiers enough to enable the English Government to drive Russians beyond the Caspian Sea. Indians are dissuading the English Government from war because they are averse to bloodshed and unnecessary expenditure; but they are prepared to

sacrifice their lives for the English Government in a righteous war. The English may inform Russia of this. Preparations for war are being made both in England and India. The English Government has 125,000 native soldiers. It will not be difficult to double or even to treble the number. Thousands of soldiers may be recruited from among the heroic Sikhs, Rajputs, Maharattas, Moghuls and Pathans. If there be delay in recruiting additional soldiers, the English may immediately obtain the services of the armies of the Native Princes, numbering altogether more than 300,000. The Nizam, the Begum of Bhopal, the Sirdars of the Punjab are eager to send troops to the Soudan. They will assist the English Government with troops for a war against Russia still more eagerly. On the occasion of the last Afghan war all the Native Princes offered the services of their troops to Government. The Indian Princes are all loyal to the English Government. The hostile remarks of the *St. James's Gazette* and other papers have not been able to shake their loyalty.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 9th, 1885.

19. The same paper says that Lord Granville has tried to convince the House of Lords that it is necessary to keep England's friendship with Germany unimpaired at this time. The Editor is in favour of such moderation and cautiousness. Hostility with Bismarck is by no means desirable.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 9th, 1885.

20. The *Som Prakash*, of the 9th March, hears that the Maharajah of Mysore will pay a visit to the Viceroy at Simla, with the object of inducing him to reduce the amount of tribute in consideration of the bad financial condition of that State. The Editor says that if Lord Dufferin can take this opportunity to improve the system of government in Mysore, the expenditure of the State will be reduced, while the amount of tribute will not have to be reduced.

SOM PRAKASH.

21. The same paper says that the Ministry have committed an error in at all interfering in the affairs of the Soudan. It is also a mistake to suppose that the Mahdi will be easily defeated. The Ministers are good men. Because they do not choose to crush those who are fighting for their country's freedom, disasters have occurred in the Soudan. The Editor is glad that the Ministry have not fallen owing to the vote of censure, not because that they have rendered any extraordinary service to India, but because their views are liberal and they are good men.

SOM PRAKASH.

22. The same paper says the principle upon which India had been governed before the arrival of Lord Ripon was to improve the condition of the English conquerors by somehow well governing the conquered natives. Before Lord Ripon's administration, India had been conquered by brute force. Lord Ripon tried to govern the country by attaching Indians to the British Government. Unable to perceive the value of his policy, dim-sighted Anglo-Indians insulted him for it and opposed its introduction. But a deeper reflection would have shown these men that the inspiring of love is a far better means of government than the inspiring of fear. Every one knows the enthusiasm shown by Indians for Lord Ripon because of his departure from the policy of his predecessors. Mr. Gladstone sent Lord Ripon as Viceroy of India at a very proper time. From the advance of Russia it is almost evident that, had a man like Lord Lytton been entrusted with the administration of India at such a time instead of a man like Lord Ripon, there would have been great probability of danger. If future Viceroys follow the policy of Lord Ripon, Russians will have to abandon all hopes of occupying India. Russia's idea that the conquest of India will be a very easy task is nothing but the delusion of hope. The writer does not intend to say anything about the Amir, when experienced statesmen are

A righteous administration of India,
and Russian invasion.

anxious to keep him friendly. By great efforts and expenditure that friendship may be made very profitable. To incite people to fight for the defence of their country against Russians is consistent with sound political maxims. If Lord Dufferin waters the plant planted by Lord Ripon, the mighty efforts of Russia for the occupation of India will be vain, and she will have to rest contented with her dominion in Central Asia. If Lord Ripon's policy is followed in the government of India, England and India will be closely bound together by the tie of affection.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 9th, 1885.

23. The same paper says that the *Daily Telegraph* writes of a secret assembly of Mussulmans having members in all countries inhabited by Musulmans. The

A secret assembly of Mussulmans. Editor says that now that Russians are trying to enter India, England is entangled in difficulties in the Soudan, there is ill-feeling between the political parties in England, and the European powers are displeased with England. Government should not lay the axe at the root of the loyalty of Indian Musulmans by shewing distrust of them.

SURABHI,
March 10th, 1885.

24. The *Surabhi*, of the 10th March, says that Germany, France and Russia are against England. Italy alone is on her side. Turkey also has sought alliance

England and other European powers. with her. There is reason to apprehend under these circumstances a formidable war. But it is reassuring to know that Lord Granville is trying to win over Germany to the side of England by apologising to Prince Bismarck. It will not be well for England if Germany, France, and Russia combine against her.

SURABHI.

25. The same paper, referring to the statement that manifestos have been found in Allahabad and Umritsar calling upon Indian Mussulmans to rise against

Indian Mussulmans. Government, says that it is not aware whether the statement is founded upon fact or not. If such a manifesto has been really found, it must have been written by a mad man or a man fond of jokes, inasmuch as it is impossible to shake the loyalty of Indians to the British Government. If Indian Mussulmans had had any sympathy with the Mahdi, their leaders, the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Begum of Bhopal, and other Mussulman princes, would never have been eager to send troops to fight against him. The Editor suspects that some selfish Anglo-Indians are circulating these rumours in order to awaken distrust of, and hostility towards, natives in the mind of Government. It will not be well either for Government or for Indians if it does not trust natives.

SURABHI.

26. The same paper says that it is evident that the quarrel between England and Russia will end in a war.

England and Russia. Russia sees that England is now entangled in difficulties in the Soudan. She will not perhaps let slip such an opportunity for gaining her own ends. England should now act very discreetly. There are now two powerful enemies—the Mahdi and Russia. England should not prepare the way for disaster by embarking in a war with Russia.

SCRABHI.

27. The same paper says that the English Government should form an alliance with the Amir of Cabul, but should not interfere in the quarrel between the

England and Afghanistan. Amir and Russia. The English Government should give the Amir to understand that it is his great friend, but that it does not choose to interfere in his affairs. The Amir should remain on friendly terms both with England and Russia unless any of them is the first to fight with him. It is both immoral and impolitic to force Afghans to quarrel with Russia. England has often injured Afghans by needlessly fighting against them. They have not yet forgotten it. It will be most unwise under these circumstances to send troops to the Afghan frontier to fight with Russia without conciliating the Afghans. Afghans now fear Russia like the English; consequently

they may forget their former animosity and become friendly to England. But if England now forces them to fight with a powerful enemy like Russia, she will naturally be considered as an enemy by them. England should no doubt save the independence of Afghanistan. But no one can understand better than the Amir how to save his independence. If the Amir is unable to save his independence without the assistance of England, it should be seen what amount of assistance is necessary. If, in order to save the independence of Afghanistan, England has to undertake the entire task of its defence, Government should cease to interfere in its affairs. England has nothing to fear from the proximity of Russia. The European countries are situated close to one another. Yet there is no quarrel between them. With India, with her countless millions to support her, England, which is inferior to no country in courage, prowess and military skill, can defy the whole world.

28. The *Prabhāti*, of the 11th March, says that the mountain range to the north of Herat is the southern boundary of the Russian Empire. When Russia

Russians in Herat.

has not crossed this mountain frontier, it is wrong on the part of England to quarrel with Russia. The writer thinks that the English have done an impolitic action by instructing the Afghans to resist the Russians. The English should not enter into other people's quarrels unless Russia obtains a footing in Cabul. But it is extremely difficult for her to obtain such a footing. The Cabulees do not want Abdur Rahman it is true, but that does not show that they are prepared to make Russia supreme in Cabul. The Heratees would be glad indeed to get Yakub back by the aid of Russia, but they are not going to sell their independence for it. Even if they do so, the English will have no cause of quarrel until Russia sets her heart on India.

PRABHATI,
March 11th, 1885.

29. The *Bangabási*, of the 14th March, says that Lord Dufferin is not fond of fuss. He does things in a quiet and noiseless manner. He has made vast

The Russian advance.

preparations for war without noise. There are many Editors of newspapers who still cherish a hope of amicable settlement with Russia. But the writer is strongly under the impression that there must be war unless the English submit to very humiliating terms—a contingency which appears to be impossible for a nation which rules the millions of India. If the English submit to the occupation of Herat by Russia to-day, she will demand Kandahar to-morrow, and Peshawur the next day. The writer therefore advises England to go to war at once.

BANGABASI,
March 14th, 1885.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

30. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 28th February, says that Lord Ripon, though no longer the Viceroy of India, still feels for her people as is evidenced by his recent utterances in England. He has undertaken a work of love, and God may make him an instrument for doing immense good to the people of India.

Lord Ripon's speech.

SULABH SAMACHAR,
Feb. 28th, 1885.

31. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 2nd March, has an article on the Administration Report of Bengal for the year 1883-84, in the course of which it makes remarks on the relation between the Government of Bengal and the Native Press, which are similar to those noticed in paragraph 90 of our Report for the week ending the 7th March.

Sir Rivers Thompson and the Native Press.

CHARU VARTA,
March 2nd, 1885.

32. The same paper is glad to notice that Lord Dufferin has successfully resisted the attempt of the Ministry at home to saddle India with the cost of the Indian contingent serving in the Soudan.

The cost of the Indian contingent.

CHARU VARTA.

CHARU VARTA,
March 2nd, 1885.

33. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the oppressions practised by the Naib of the Mymensing pergunnah of the Dhankora Estate, appointed by the Court of Wards. He is so feared that no one ventures to complain against him before the Manager or the Collector. He has purchased a horse, and wants to obtain the price of the horse by a cess levied on the raiyats.

SAHACHAR,
March 4th, 1885.

34. The *Sahachar*, of the 4th March, says that every disinterested and impartial person must admit that the raising of the standard of age for the Civil Service has become indispensable. Those who hold the opposite opinion are either guided by interest or foolishness. The lowering of the standard of age to 19 has been attended with much mischief. If the standard of age be fixed at 22 or 23, university graduates can enter the service. But since the lowering of the standard of age, no graduate has been able to enter the service. The service has been closed to Indians since the lowering of the standard of age. From 1876 when the lower standard of age was introduced up to 1882, 21 Indians appeared in the Civil Service Examination, but not one of them succeeded. It is absurd to expect natives to succeed in the examination after the reduction of the standard of age. How many men can, like Baboo Tarak Nath Palit, get their sons educated from infancy in England?

SAHACHAR.

35. The same paper complains that the officers of the European regiments in Calcutta, who frequently go to Baraset on hunting excursions, behave in such a manner as to excite fear in the minds of the people. They often walk with the shot boar through dilapidated houses of native gentlemen. This so much frightens the women of those houses in which there are no males, that those women have left their houses. The Editor hopes that the authorities will take steps to prevent this uneasiness and inconvenience of the people.

SAHACHAR.

36. The same paper says that there can be no doubt that the insertion of a provision setting a limit to the enhancement of rent in the Rent Bill would have greatly benefited ryots. Yet the Editor does not think that the Bill, as it is, will not at all benefit the ryots, and will only injure the zemindars.

SAHACHAR.

37. The same paper says that of the recommendations made by the Enquiry Commission, only three or four are new, and that the rest have already been adopted by the Commissioners themselves. The Commissioners have no power under the existing law to give effect to most of the few new recommendations made by the Commission. In spite of all their efforts, Mr. Beverley and Dr. Lidderdale have not been able to blame the Municipal Commissioners. They have not been able to show that the health of Calcutta has been injured owing to the fault of the Municipal Commissioners. Consequently, the Commission, under section 28, has not produced any result. The Lieutenant-Governor did not listen to the objection that the Commission would prove futile. It is not certain what he will do now. Even Mr. Beverley's hostile report testifies to the merit of the Municipal Commissioners. The dissent recorded by Mr. Cotton, the ornament of Englishmen, gives a crushing reply to his colleagues' report. Owing to the fear of the clamours of the *Englishman*, Mr. Beverley examined Dr. Payne and others who are hostile to the Commissioners. He expressed displeasure at the cross examination of Dr. Payne by Mr. Cotton. Mr. Justice Cunningham submitted his evidence in a letter, and so Mr. Cotton could not cross examine him. But he and Dr. Lidderdale

rejected Mr. Cotton's proposal for the examination of native witnesses who are the most competent to tell what improvements have been made, and what remain to be made, in the Bengali quarters of the town.

Baboo Haranath Basu, the Munsif of Miresvari.

38. The *Sansodhini*, of the 4th March, says that Baboo Haranath Basu, the Officiating Munsif of Miresvari, is not very popular.

SANSODHINI,
March 4th, 1885.

Baboo Kanai Lal Mukerji, the Subordinate Judge of Chittagong.

39. The same paper is sorry that Baboo Kanai Lal Mukerji, the Subordinate Judge of Chittagong, is going away on leave. The

SANSODHINI.

Baboo was courteous in his manners and endeavoured to do justice.

PATAKA,
March 6th, 1885.

A native official on the Commission for considering about the advisability of increasing the salaries of the civil court amlah.

40. The *Patáká*, of the 6th March, says that Messrs. Stevens and Beames, and either Mr. Grimley or Mr. Cotton, will be appointed members of the Commission that will be formed to consider about the advisability of increasing the salaries of the amlah of the civil courts. The Editor says that the above officials are undoubtedly very able. But if an experienced native official were included in the Commission, it would be able to better realize the distress of the amlah.

PATAKA.

The Lieutenant-Governor and the Calcutta Municipality.

41. The same paper says that Mr. Cotton has been obliged to record a dissent, owing to the unjust manner in which his colleagues, Mr. Beverley and Dr. Lidderdale, have found fault with the Municipal Commissioners. The Lieutenant-Governor has rejected Mr. Cotton's dissent and accepted Mr. Beverley's report. The Lieutenant-Governor has proceeded too far. The Editor advises him yet to desist from attacking the municipality. He has become very unpopular with natives since the establishment of the Enquiry Commission. Every act of his in connection with this matter is considered by the people to show his love for Anglo-Indians. But he says that he has done all this for the benefit of the rate-payers. The rate-payers say that their comforts have increased under the municipality. This statement is also proved by impartial judgment. Still the Lieutenant-Governor places implicit faith in the hostile opinion of some Anglo-Indians.

PATAKA

42. The same paper does not approve of Mr. W. C. Bonerjee's proposal to increase the fee for the B. L. examination to Rs. 100. Such a high fee will deter many competent candidates from going in for the examination.

The fee for the B. L. Examination.

43. The *Pratikár*, of the 6th March, hears of the ravages of tigers and jackals in the mofussil every now and then. The people have been disarmed lest they should rise against the British Government. The newspapers are making agitations to obtain the repeal of this Act. But Government always turns a deaf ear to their representations.

PRATIKAR,
March 6th, 1885.

The Arms Act.

44. The same paper is glad to notice the establishment of a political association at Nuddea under the name of the Nuddea District Association.

PRATIKAR.

The Nuddea District Association.

45. The same paper says that the people of India have deposited a very large sum in the hands of the Government for the relief of those suffering from the effects of the famine. But Government is not doing anything with the money at the present moment when there is so much scarcity not only of food but also of water. People are indeed very happy under British rule, when they are suffering from the effects of the scarcity not only of food, but also of water.

PRATIKAR.

Scarcity of food and water.

PRATIKAR,
March 6th, 1885.

46. The same paper says that the Anglo-Indian Press is an instrument of immense mischief to India. If Government ever falls into difficulties it would be owing to the writings of this press. The writer is greatly annoyed at the tone in which the *Daily News* notices the offer of the Nizam to send troops to the Soudan. It asks, has the Nizam troops that can be sent to help the English?

PRATIKAR.

47. Correspondents writing to the same paper complain of the ravages done by tigers in Kantalia and Devagram. People have no arms to keep these destructive animals off.

PRATIKAR.

48. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that Government has yet taken no steps to remove the scarcity of water at Kulbaria, though the Commissioner of the Division was informed of it, and though the Magistrate of the district has been applied to for it.

PRATIKAR.

49. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains of the scarcity of water at Somra, and asks Government to remove it by excavating a tank in that village.

PRATIKAR.

50. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that Baboo Prasanakumar Ghosh, the Munsif of Janghy-pur, holds his court till 9 o'clock in the night at all seasons to the great annoyance both of the parties to the suit and of the public.

PRAJABANDHU,
March 6th, 1885.

51. The *Prajābandhu*, of the 6th March, says that Mr. Lewis, the Superintendent of the Bengal Secretariat Press, never looks to the prospects of the people who serve under him. He has dismissed many of these poor men. The Lieutenant-Governor has not done anything to relieve their sufferings. Such things are to be met with in every office in Calcutta. Every officer under Government according to the Leave Code is entitled to privilege leave for certain days in the year, but there are very few drawing less than a hundred rupees a month who are allowed by their official superiors to avail themselves of the leave. In other departments promotions may be slow, and very slow, but people get promotion. But poor clerks never get them. Many of them enter on Rs. 20 and end their days on Rs. 30. Though a Bengali may remain on the same pay the whole period of his service, a Eurasian generally gets two or three hundred rupees in the course of a few years. A system of examination for the appointment of clerks has, for the last three years, been introduced in the offices under the Government of India, but the ruler of Bengal is still indifferent as to the introduction of a similar system. An intelligence office has been opened recently for the benefit of Eurasians and Anglo-Indians, and rumour has it that Sir Rivers Thompson is a well-wisher of the office. Though a system of competitive examination has been established for the appointment of Deputy Magistrates and Statutory Civilians, Sir Rivers hesitates to remove the darkness in which the appointment of clerks is involved.

PRAJABANDHU.

52. The same paper says that the *Pioneer* concludes that the people of India are very prosperous from the fact that kerosine-oil and quinine have a much larger sale now than before. But, says the writer, the consumption of kerosine shows that the people are poor, and that they cannot afford to pay for oils of greater value. The consumption of quinine shows the prevalence of malarious fever.

53. The *Education Gazette*, of the 6th March, recognizes the necessity of appointing canoongoes and patwaris, but it disapproves of the idea of imposing fresh taxation for that purpose. There should be a complete reformation of the patwari system as prevalent in Behar, where it is doing much mischief.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
March 6th, 1885.

The Patwari Bill.

54. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 7th March, says that two men have lost their lives by accidents on the tramway. The writer thinks that the tramways should be abolished if these accidents cannot be prevented. What is Sir Rivers Thompson doing? And what are the Commissioners of Calcutta and the Editors of newspapers doing?

SULABH SAMACHAR
March 7th, 1885.

Tramway accidents.

55. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 7th March, says that it has ceased to reverence the Lieutenant-Governor after reading his speech at the Trades' Dinner. The Viceroy should give good counsel to the Lieutenant-Governor, otherwise the people will not derive any benefit from His Honor's administration. The Lieutenant-Governor too should correct his mistake, and try to put an end to the misery of the people.

UCHIT VAKTA,
March 7th, 1885.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

56. The same paper says that Mr. Bright's just proposal for the reduction of the salaries of the civilians would have been accepted in a country like England, but no one cares anything for the sufferings of poor India.

UCHIT VAKTA.

The salaries of the civilians.

57. The *Grámvártá Prakáshiká*, of the 7th March, says that the gentleman who disclosed the cruelties practised in the Presidency Jail under the *nom de plume* of 'Humanity' has given out his name, and says that he is prepared to prove the charges brought by him against Mr. Beadon, if the Government of India brings the case before a competent court. The writer hopes that Government will act according to the advice given by this gentleman.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA
March 7th, 1885.

Cruelties in the Presidency Jail.

58. The same paper says that the Tenancy Bill has failed to secure the object for which it was introduced. The ryots will be ruined if it is passed into law.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

The Tenancy Bill.

59. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains of the mischief committed by wolves in Khesara in Khulna.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

The complaints of Khesara in Khulna.

60. A correspondent writing to the same paper urges the necessity of putting up a letter-box at Narainpore in the jurisdiction of the post-office at Sadhuhati.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

A letter-box at Narainpore.

61. The *Sanjivani*, of the 7th March, hears that Government has called for the papers of the Glover case. Government often calls for papers in cases like this, but no good results come of it.

SANJIVANI,
March 7th, 1885.

The Glover case.

62. The same paper says that Government is determined to pass the Tenancy Bill before proceeding to the hills. The zemindars and the ryots are all with one accord crying for a postponement, but Government will not listen to them. Very few of the illiterate peasantry of Bengal know what ruin the Bill is preparing for them. They will go mad when they will come to know all about it to their bitter cost. Lord Dufferin will become very unpopular unless he allows a postponement at least for three months.

SANJIVANI.

The Tenancy Bill.

63. In noticing the posting of seditious placards in Persian in different towns of India, the same paper says that such placards are useless. The people of India prefer the English rule to the rule of any other nation. Still

SANJIVANI.

Seditious placards.

Government should try its best to put a stop to the posting of such placards. The writer asks his countrymen too to hand over the man who posts these up if they can trace him.

SANJIVANI,
March 7th, 1885.

64. The same paper doubts whether the appointment of Mr. Beames to the Commission for enquiring into the matter of the remuneration of the Civil Court amla

The Civil Court Commission.

will do any good, for Mr. Beames is a man of a very peculiar cast of mind. Mr. Broughton has taken very great pains in this matter. It would have been well to appoint him to the Commission.

SANJIVANI

65. The same paper says that drunkenness prevails in cities. It prevails more among artizans than among agriculturists. The increase of drunkenness in

The Excise Commission.

this country is to be attributed to the revolution in the social system of the people brought about by their contact with the English nation. It may also be attributed to the cheapness of spirits which are procurable everywhere.

SANJIVANI

66. The special famine correspondent of the same paper says that Maro in Burdwan is a large village. The

Famine in Bengal.

re-excavation of a large tank in the village gives occupation to a large number of starving people. The Mahomedans do not come to the work. The poor workmen get only four pice for their day's labour.

The Bagdis and Moochies of Gurh are in great want. They went to the annachhatra at Mankar, but the rules are so hard that the manager could not admit them.

There was a six-anna crop at Suata. There is no very great want as yet in this village, but the distress will commence from April.

The Mahomedans at Eral are in distress. The produce is estimated at 4 annas.

The Mahomedan males of Arjunpur ply their carts in different parts of the district, and are not exactly in want; but they will not be able to cultivate their lands the next season unless they receive help in some shape from Government, for when they engage in tillage they will no longer be able to ply their carts.

The paddy crop at Kharo in the Satgachhia thana has almost all been destroyed. About one-eighth of the arable land was irrigated late in the season from the neighbouring canal, and it has yielded a four-anna crop. The pinch is not felt here because the railway station is near and because the rabi crop has yielded something.

The people of Dilerpur are suffering greatly from the scarcity of water. They do not know that tanks may be re-excavated by advances received from Government. The yield in 1290 was four annas, only 6 or 7 families have got a small quantity of paddy from the lands this year, but about 50 to 52 families could not cultivate at all.

The village of Nandipur is under the khas management of the Maharaja of Burdwan; but it is in the utmost wretched condition. The canal water can with ease be utilized in this village; but there is none to look after these things.

The people of Bagle Kristopur are in distress; only a few bighas of land were cultivated there this year.

The canal water was availed of in the village of Memary late in the season, and it helped cultivation to a certain extent. The rabi crop is good, and there is no lack of work, so there will be no distress here this year.

There was an eight-anna crop in 1290 and a four-anna crop in 1291 in Radhakantapur and Bamanpura. The inhabitants are mostly cultivators. The talookdars are filing suits against them, and are harassing them by getting warrants issued against them.

The crops have almost completely failed in the villages of Amadpur, Bijre, and Sankarpur. The excavation of a tank has given occupation to many. There will be great distress here in the months of April and May.

There is a total failure of the rabi crop in the villages of Gante, Kanpur, Karunpur, and Patra. The yield of paddy was about two annas. Many are engaged in digging the tank at Amadpur.

Many are in distress at Paharhati, and there was a six-anna crop at Dhunai. The condition of Bijure is not bad.

There are 400 families of Bagdis, Doms, and Haris in Satgechhe. The lands have not yielded anything owing to the want, first, of rain, and secondly of tanks for the purposes of irrigation. There is no cry for help yet, but people will be in great distress by June.

Ramkumar Vidyaratna says that the condition of the village of Paikpara near Nulhati is extremely deplorable. When he came to the village many represented to him that they had not taken rice for two or three days together. At Nulhati many said that they lived on khensari and on snails.

There is scarcity at Rampur, but no famine. Nazir Shekh of Khapura has fled away, leaving his family in great distress. So have several others.

It is a very unfortunate thing that the Lieutenant-Governor, when he came to inspect the condition of the people of Beerbhoom, concluded from seeing the flowers of the mustard plants in the fields that there was no famine, and so stopped the relief works. The writer thinks that relief works for the able-bodied and distribution of food to the incapable have become absolutely necessary.

67. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 7th March, says that the abuses of the law courts will be at an end, and the Judges will be saved from considerable inconvenience, if the salaries of the amlah are increased and if graduates are appointed as amlah.

The amlah.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 7th, 1885.

68. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 8th March, says that there is no mention of the Anglo-Indian papers and the papers edited by natives in English in the Annual Administration Report of Bengal. The Report is very hard on papers published in the vernacular. This seems to show that the Lieutenant-Governor does not understand the object with which the vernacular papers are written. Government should have punished any paper which may have used seditious language. But it alone knows what it calls loyal and what disloyal. Not a word has been said as to the tone of the Anglo-Indian Press, and all the abuse has been hurled on the heads of the vernacular papers.

The vernacular papers.

DACCA PRAKASH,
March 8th, 1885.

69. The same paper says that neither the zemindars nor the ryots desire the passing of the Tenancy Bill in its present form, for there are provisions in this Bill which have inspired one class or other of the people with great apprehensions. The writer does not understand why the Government is anxious to hurry the Bill through the Council when the measure is likely to revolutionize the relations between landlords and tenants throughout the country.

The Tenancy Bill.

DACCA PRAKASH.

70. The same paper says that by lowering the age limit in the Civil Service Examination, Government has indirectly deprived the people of India of their rights. Of the 28 candidates from India who have appeared in the examination since the lowering of the age limit, only one has succeeded in passing, and that because he has been a sojourner in England since his earliest childhood. It is a fact well known to all that the Government of Bombay complains of the health of the new civilians. There can be no two opinions as to the fact that the present rule has deteriorated the service.

The age limit of the Indian Civil Service.

DACCA PRAKASH.

SADHARANI,
March 8th, 1885.

71. The *Sadhārani*, of the 8th March, says that many zemindars and ryots expressed the opinion that the Rent Bill should set a limit to the enhance-

The Rent Bill.

ment of rent. But no such limit is fixed by the Bill as amended by the Select Committee. The Lieutenant-Governor has said:—"The loss of the limitation of the maximum rent to one-fifth of the gross produce is a serious loss." The Editor urges that some provision setting a limit to the enhancement of rent should be included in the Bill. Much agitation has been made about a Bill for tenants. But if the Bill is passed into law in its present shape, it must be said that it is a law neither in favour of the ryots nor in that of zemindars, but in that of Government. It will lead to increase of litigation and to an increase of stamp fees, and consequently to an increase of the revenue. It is deeply to be regretted that this Bill for ryots has at last become an example of the greed of the British Government. There is almost no provision for the three Rs in the Bill as it stands at present. The Lieutenant-Governor has said—"The Bill almost entirely abandons the non-occupancy and the under-raiyat. They are practically unprotected." It is evident that none of the three rights which were proposed to be conferred upon ryots has been conferred upon them. Nothing can be more vague than the term "pergunnah rate." The zemindar calls the highest rate of rent in the pergunnah the "pergunnah rate;" the ryot calls the lowest rate by that name. When zemindars purchase a new mehal, they institute suits for arrears of rent at a high rate against some gentle ryots. Sometimes decrees for arrears of rent at a high rate are obtained owing to the connivance of the ryots against whom they are instituted by arrangement. The introduction of the pergunnah rate will be a matter of deep regret. If that rate is introduced, the ryots will be harassed by the zemindars fixing the pergunnah rate as high as they please.

SADHARANI.

72. The same paper says that during the last hundred years

The English Government and
Indians.

during which the English have governed India, they have done much good along with much mischief. Owing to the merits of the English rulers there is no longer any fear of robbers in the land, justice is being administered satisfactorily, and the people are becoming educated. Owing to their faults the country has become very poor, the people are becoming more and more cowardly day by day and many bad habits have made their appearance among the people. Still the writer cannot say that the departure of the English from the country has become indispensable to the welfare of India. India will not be benefited if another power now becomes ruler of India by driving out the English. The English have been long in this country and have had dealings with Indians for a long time. The English have now become somewhat affectionate towards natives and somewhat anxious to remove their grievances. After receiving English education, Indians have devoted themselves to the study of politics. This study has taught Indians the value of freedom and has completely changed them. These things show that the time for the amelioration of the condition of Indians is not far-off. Though Indians will have to pass through many storms, there can be no doubt that ultimately they will enjoy pure sunshine.

SADHARANI.

73. The same paper says that the smallness of the number of prisoners

Jail administration.

in jails last year, notwithstanding the distress in the province, is due to the timidity and the consequent gentleness of the people. Many persons now think that it is better to die of starvation than to steal or rob and get imprisoned. This opinion is due partly to moral sense and partly to timidity. The writer says that no punishment can be more severe than the allowance of insufficient food. Most prisoners die prematurely because

they are made to work hard, and yet are not allowed sufficient food. It is gratifying that the number of prisoners punished with the above punishment was smaller last year. But as on the one side the instances of the above punishment have diminished in number, the instances of solitary confinement have increased. The writer will be glad to see reduction in the number of instances of this punishment also. The expression of satisfaction with the jail administration during the last year, after the disclosures about the cruelties in the Presidency Jail, can be expected only from high English officials. The people have now understood that Government does not care to ascertain whether cruelties are perpetrated in jails.

74. The same paper says that the Calcutta Municipality is guilty of partiality in one respect. It levies night-soil tax upon privies cleaned by mehters, but not upon those connected with the drains. The writer recommends that the Municipality should make arrangements for the connection of every privy with the drains.

SADHARANI,
March 8th, 1885.

75. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 9th March, remarks that the Lieutenant-Governor does not think that Mr. Beadon deserves any higher punishment than official censure. His Honor has lost no opportunity to advocate the cause of Mr. Beadon. The writer does not approve of the tone of the Resolution of Sir Rivers Thompson on the subject of the Presidency Jail.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
March 9th, 1885.

76. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 9th March, says that the Administration Report of the year 1883-84 says that 2,218 books were received in the Bengal Library during the year. The writer wants to know how one Librarian can read 2,218 books in one year?

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
March 9th, 1885.

77. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 9th March, says that it learns from a travelling correspondent that the Rajah of Khandapara in the Gurjats in Orissa is guilty of oppression. The correspondent has adduced the Rajah's high-handed conduct towards one Madhab Satra, a contractor, as an instance of his oppressions. The Editor entreats the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint a Commission to enquire into the matter, and recommends that if the Rajah is independently incapable of governing justly, a Council composed of competent men should be formed to help him in the work of administration.

SOM PRAKASH,
March 9th 1885.

78. The same paper says that though Mr. Tayler held a meeting for the relief of the distress in Bancoorah, the people have not obtained relief. For this reason they have petitioned Government. Many persons in the district are dying of starvation and cries of distress are heard on all sides. Considerable distress prevails also in Beerbhoom and Nalhati. Many are leaving their homes. Many are going to Cachar and Assam as coolies. It is a sign of the wretched state of India that drought during one or two years is followed by a famine.

SOM PRAKASH.

79. The same paper says, that the Rent Bill is not an equitable measure is proved by the diversity of opinion which exists upon the subject among the members of the Legislative Council. Lord Dufferin should not earn a bad name by hurriedly passing such a Bill into law. There is no reason but the partiality of the Legislators which can be assigned for the provisions that the rent paid by ryots occupying lands for successive generations since the Permanent Settlement should not be enhanced. Why should not the rent paid by this class of ryots be enhanced under the circumstances under which the rent paid by other classes of ryots will be enhanced? Is not the above provision an encroachment upon the

SOM PRAKASH.

rights of the zemindar? What reason again can there be for the provision that fresh enhancement of rent should not be made within fifteen years. May not circumstances under which the enhancement of rent is permitted occur within the 15 years? Will not that provision injure the zemindars? Will it not interfere with the freedom of those zemindars who have purchased zemindaries in the hope that they will be able to act freely in the management of their zemindaries? The leaving of the fixing of the rate of enhancement to the discretion of Judges will lead to expenditure on law suits on the part of both zemindars and ryots, inasmuch as the rate which will be considered equitable by one Judge will not be considered as such by another. A Bill each of the provisions of which is so mischievous should not be hurriedly passed into law. Lord Dufferin, who is a new man, should carefully examine the Bill. The writer says that the Bill makes no provision for the protection of the real cultivators from rack-renting. If a person whose family has been in possession of a land since the Permanent Settlement sublets it, and charges from the ryots three times the rent which he pays to the zemindar, how will Government save those ryots?

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 9th, 1885.

80. We give below a translation of an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 9th March, headed "Sir Rivers Thompson and Bengali newspapers."

In his last Annual Administration Report, Sir Rivers Thompson has again expressed his anger with vernacular newspapers. His Honor has said that the measure of tolerance he has extended to these papers would not be shown by any other Government.

Sir Rivers has long been in this country. Perhaps he first came out here as an Assistant Magistrate and gradually became Joint Magistrate, District Magistrate, Sessions Judge, Commissioner, Chief Commissioner, Member of Council, and was at length appointed to his present post of Lieutenant-Governor. In proportion as he received higher and higher posts, his powers became larger and larger, and with the gradual increase of his powers he has come to look upon the natives of this country as of small, smaller and the smallest consequence. As Lieutenant-Governor he now fills the throne of Bengal. He is now the master of the destinies of Bengal. Such is now his position, and yet those who, in his opinion, are powerless and think themselves supremely blest, if they receive but a particle of his favour, discuss the merits and demerits of his actions, reprove him as a master if he does anything wrong, and give him instructions in a patronizing tone. How can he bear this?

Sir Rivers probably not unoften when he witnesses the impertinence of native newspapers wishes that he could get the editors of these papers one by one seized and hanged or transported. Sometimes also becoming impatient with rage, he perhaps wishes that he could have them dragged before him by his *syce* and horsewhipped. In such moments of anger he would perhaps think—"Why should I put up with the impertinences of these men? What is their power? They belong to the uncivilized Hindoo race; in learning and intelligence also they deserve utter contempt. They live under the British Government. My position, on the contrary, is such that I can easily, if I am so minded, burn Bengal from one end to the other. And yet I have to put up with this annoyance."

Occasionally, perhaps, he finds it impossible to restrain the impetuosity of his anger, and resolves upon issuing such official orders as may prevent native papers from making any comments on the doings of Government, discussing the merits and demerits of the actions of the Governors, and expressing thereon any opinion of their own. Thus resolved, he perhaps takes up his pen and sets himself to write, but suddenly perhaps the thought flashes across his mind that editors of newspapers in this country possess

such powers that he cannot order them to act in conformity with the wishes of the Lieutenant-Governor. And when he remembers this, the pen perhaps drops from his hand, he throws the inkstand at a distance, tears the paper before him into pieces, rushes after the servant standing by his side, and resolves upon resigning his post of Lieutenant-Governor.

Thus resolved, he perhaps thinks, "a lakh of rupees a year; a hundred thousand rupees put together make one lakh; the interest on a lakh is four thousand rupees. Again, not a lakh of rupees only, but all this sovereignty, this happiness and affluence—How shall I give up all these?" His heart perhaps weeps and says: "Alas! This happiness, this affluence, and this wealth, and I am made uneasy by the most insignificant and contemptible editors. What a pity! Lord Lytton! Where are you now? Will you come here again? Perhaps you, or some official like you, will perhaps again come to this country, but perhaps will not come so long as I am here. Lord Ripon, it is for you that I suffer so much, and not only myself, but every Englishman in this country also suffers so much. Have you no pity, no justice? I have, after much difficulty, obtained the post of Lieutenant-Governor. What expectations I had, how many wishes I might now have gratified, but you are so unkind that by repealing the Press Act, you have destroyed all my happiness. You see I am now in the last stage of my life. Could not even this excite your pity?" If we had been men of equal position with the Lieutenant-Governor, or if we had been Fenians, Nihilists, or the like, we should have been glad at this mortification of the Lieutenant-Governor, and just as His Honour had expressed his grief we should have thought that our arrows had not missed their mark, but pierced Sir Rivers' heart. But His Honour may or may not believe it, we state it candidly that we are not glad, but become extremely sorry if we see him unhappy. Perhaps we should have been glad if Sir Rivers had been a heartless, selfish, and intriguing person like Sir Ashley Eden. But we hold that, however guilty Sir Rivers may be of the acts of injustice and oppression committed by him in this country, many of them are not probably done by him wilfully. He would never have done these acts if he had not fallen in the hands of designing men, and had he possessed the power to save himself from their hands. It is possible that in reproving Sir Rivers Thompson for some of his acts, we do not always reprove him in an impartial spirit. It is possible that we not unoften causelessly reprove him in our anger just as he not unfrequently reproves us causelessly and impelled by anger. And again not being acquainted with all the facts of a case we may possibly through error blame him causelessly. But the chief cause of the dissatisfaction of the people with him is the agitation about the Jurisdiction Bill. Whether in this matter he really made any default will probably be made clear to him as soon as he goes to England. If he had discussed the Jurisdiction Bill without being what he was—a declared leader of Anglo-Indians—we would not have blamed him for it, but let him once remember how he conducted himself in respect of that agitation, that he forgot the dignity of his position, his duty, and even his loyalty, and that he made natives understand at every step that he was the leader of Anglo-Indians. And who is to blame for this—Sir Rivers Thompson, or we if we have reproved him for it?

He has himself admitted that many local officials subordinate to him commit considerable oppression in many instances. A Magistrate of Chittagong causelessly committed many illegal acts against a respectable Mahomedan lady, and what was the condition of that lady at that time? She was mourning the loss of her husband. A Judge of the High Court was constrained to admit that the Magistrate had acted illegally. Sir Rivers Thompson also had to admit that, and yet the

Magistrate was not punished. Mr. Sharp repeatedly committed illegal acts. He insulted a respectable gentleman of Furreedpore in the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor, and yet he was not punished. A Superintendent of Police in Pubna killed a man, and yet he was not punished. The authorities thus commit oppression in different places. The Lieutenant-Governor himself admits the fact in many instances, and yet the offenders are not punished. And if, for this cause, native papers agitate about these oppressive acts, who is responsible for it?

What oppression was committed upon school-boys! Let Sir Rivers Thompson say whether he did not in his boyhood commit every day some offence similar to that for which certain school-boys were flogged at Dacca. There was great agitation made about this matter in the country, and the Lieutenant-Governor has admitted that in this matter officials subordinate to him, if not he himself, were guilty. The oppression committed at Dacca and elsewhere was greater than that which attended the Kishnagore case for which His Honor punished Mr. Tayler. Sir Rivers may say that we cannot realise his situation, and that consequently we often reprove him. But he also cannot realize our position. Could he do so, he would not probably get annoyed with us, but would be surprized to see our patience.

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PATRIKA,
March 9th, 1885.

81. The same paper is glad to notice that a District Association like that of Nuddea has been established at Jessore and has been joined by a large number of

The Jessore District Association.

influential men of the locality. The object of the Association is to agitate about a reform of the system of the administration of criminal justice and about the question of introducing the system of jury trial. The way in which the Lieutenant-Governor has set about this last mentioned matter is not likely to meet with success, inasmuch as the local officials who have been entrusted with the duty of giving effect to the scheme are most of them opposed to it. The Association have condemned the circular issued by the Lieutenant-Governor in connection with Mr. Rainey's case, and the action of the European Defence Association regarding the case of Laluram Panday. The subject of jail discipline also will engage the attention of the newly established Association. The Editor expects that much good will accrue if similar Associations are established in at least ten districts of Bengal.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

82. The same paper remarks that the Government of India is resolved upon passing the Tenancy Bill into law in utter disregard of the representations of the

The Tenancy Bill.

zemindar, the ryot, and even of the Lieutenant-Governor. There would have been no harm done if more time had been given to the public to discuss the measure. There was no particular urgency in the case, and a little delay would not have caused any great loss. There is no justification for hastily passing the Bill. The ryots are agitating against it in a constitutional manner, and the legislature ought to have given them more time to consider the amended Bill, the more so as the objections made by them to the measure are precisely those which have been raised by the Hon'ble Mr. Amir Ali and even by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor himself. The action of the Legislative Council in this matter plainly shows that it is bent more upon carrying its point than upon consulting the welfare of the people. What it did in the case of the Jurisdiction Bill also confirms this. By that measure it caused a rupture of good feelings between native and Anglo-Indians, and made people lose their reverence for Sir Rivers Thompson. In the present instance the Legislature will probably produce an impression in the public mind that, in spite of their professions to the contrary, Government are not friendly to the ryot at heart, otherwise they would not have passed into law the Tenancy Bill.

or other Bills for carrying out the objects of that measure, which are likely to be so prejudicial to the interests of the ryot. The Editor hopes that just as the Jurisdiction Bill has been the means of creating a sort of unity among the people of this country, the Rent Bill also may create unity among zemindars and ryots.

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83. The same paper remarks that, although Lord Dufferin in a manner laid down the policy that he would follow in the administration of India in his speech at the Trades' Dinner, many people feel that His Excellency was not explicit enough in his utterances, and the fact of his being a profound diplomatist, and expressing himself in English the language which is pre-eminently fit to be used in diplomacy, has caused some doubts which have been confirmed by certain other considerations. One of these is the present administration of Bengal; another is the ascendancy of Anglo-Indians. Many think that, if the Governor-General were really bent upon following a liberal policy, Sir Rivers Thompson could not venture to rule so despotically, nor could Anglo-Indians kill natives with impunity. But the true reason why people are regarding Lord Dufferin's declaration of policy with some sort of distrust is evidently their firm conviction that, in spite of their liberal professions, English officials will only do what they have all along done. Those that think in this way cannot be much blamed. They have found many instances of practice differing from profession. Even now, while the Governor-General declares that he will follow an impartial policy, the Lieutenant-Governor, who is his subordinate, is at every step giving proof of partiality. The Editor, however, is of opinion that what His Excellency has given out as his policy is sufficient. But whether or not he will be able to follow that policy in its entirety will depend upon the people of this country. They must be prepared to agitate for the redress of their grievances.

84. The same paper remarks that the agitation which is being made by Anglo-Indians about Mohur Gope's and Laluram Panday's cases will only serve to discredit them as well as European Judges in this country in the eyes of the public. It will show that either the Magistrate of Purneah and the Sessions Judge of that district must have been swayed by race partiality in convicting Mohur Gope, or that Mr. Brett must have made some error in acquitting Laluram Panday. It will further lead people to conclude that of the three—Mr. Brett, Mr. Walker and the Reporter of the *Englishman* newspaper, all of them Europeans—one must have made a false statement on oath. If these facts are established, it will not redound to the credit of Anglo-Indians. It behoves Sir Rivers Thompson, who is the chief friend and admirer of Anglo-Indians, to interfere in this case, and thus save them from exposure.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

85. The same paper is glad to hear that Baboo Dinanath Sen, the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Dacca Division, will be appointed Inspector of Schools in the Chittagong Division. The Baboo is an exceedingly able and efficient officer.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

86. The same paper is glad that Baboo Troilokya Nath Banerji, a Bengali gentleman, has been appointed Assistant Registrar of the Calcutta University.

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87. The same paper directs the attention of the Calcutta Municipality to the necessity of fixing a scale of fares for the Calcutta Tramways. The Tramways Company have been gradually raising the rate of fare to the great inconvenience of those who use their cars. Another inconvenience is that

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NAVAVIBHAKAR,
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the cars run at a very slow rate of speed, and there is besides great uncertainty as to the interval at which the cars would start from terminal stations.

88. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 9th March, says that, though

The Putwari Bill.

Mr. MacDonnell has clearly proved that there were putwaris and canoongoes under Mussulman rulers, he has not told by whom their salaries were paid. No one will have any difficulty in finding out why Mr. MacDonnell has said nothing on that point. The putwaris were paid by Government. The ryots had never to pay their salaries. Under Mussulman rulers the ryots had only to pay a fixed portion of the produce as revenue. They were not required to pay road or public works cesses. After the establishment of British rule, Bengal has occasionally been pestered by putwaris and canoongoes; but the people have never had to pay their salaries. Mr. MacDonnell has proposed the imposition of a tax of two pice in the rupee for the reorganization of the putwari system in Behar. He argues that, when the ryots of Behar have to pay to zemindars two pice in the rupee as fee for preparing accounts, a tax of that amount cannot be considered oppressive. If Government now, owing to self-interest, admits the above fee as just, what will become of the laws of 1793 and subsequent years prohibiting the levying of abwabs? Nothing is impossible under the present system of administration of India. The writer does not believe that the fee for the preparation of accounts will cease to be levied when the putwari system is reorganized. The ryots will have after that to pay the tax as well as the fee. The putwaris will charge a higher fee than the servants of the zemindars for keeping accounts, and will not like the latter exempt the aged persons, boys, women and the poor from the payment of the fee. Now-a-days a ryot's property is not sold if he is unable to pay the accountant's fee, but the property of the ryots will be sold if they are unable to pay the tax proposed to be imposed. The condition of the ryots of Behar is very wretched. Government should not add to their hardships. There is no necessity for the revival of the putwari system. It is impossible to calculate the mischief that will be done if petty Government officers are allowed to interfere in the affairs of both zemindars and ryots, and if the proposed tax is imposed. Government may also not spend the whole proceeds of the proposed tax upon the salaries of putwaris, but may spend a part of the income upon other things also. The proceeds of the tax in the Patna, Gya, Sahabad, Mozufferpore, Durbhunga, Sarun and Chumparan districts alone will amount to ten lakhs and a half. But the whole of that money will not surely be necessary to defray the expenses of the salaries of the putwaris and canoongoes of those districts. If under these circumstances the people impute unworthy motives to Government for imposing a tax of two pice in the rupee, they cannot be blamed. The Bengal Government is now very anxious to benefit the ryots. The Editor hopes that Sir Rivers Thompson will desist from introducing the proposed measure.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

89. The same paper says that Lord Lytton spent from forty-five

India and the expenses of the troops sent to the Soudan and to Central Asia.

crores upon the scientific frontier. Lord Dufferin is not rash like Lord Lytton. The Editor has confidence in his good sense. But whatever good qualities Lord Dufferin may possess, it is impossible for him to alter the decree of destiny. But Lord Dufferin may do a service to India by firmly expressing his opinion that, in the event of a war between England and Russia in Central Asia, England should bear a portion of its expenses. Lord Dufferin's protest against the saddling of India with any expense for the Indian troops sent to the Soudan other than the salaries allowed them in India has awakened hope in the writer's

mind. If he had still more courageously expressed the opinion that the whole of the expenses should be borne by England, he would have entitled himself to greater praise. The Home Government should also consider whether it is just to saddle India with the expenses of the troops that are being sent to Central Asia. The writer does not believe that the Russians are advancing for the purpose of conquering India. Nor does he think that they will soon think of invading India. Under these circumstances, England should bear the expenses of the troops.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 9th, 1885.

90. The same paper says that though the Agricultural Secretary, Mr. Buck's praise of Government in his speech before the Society of Arts is exaggerated, it must be admitted that the condition of Indian cultivators has considerably improved under the English Government. But the writer is not satisfied with the improvement that has been made. The Australian Government has made during 25 years an improvement which is fourteen times as great as that which has been made during that time by the Indian Government. The improvement has been so slow, though officials like Mr. Buck have admitted that the Indian cultivators have the best agricultural implements. Under these circumstances, the people cannot be satisfied with the improvement that has been made.

Government and agriculture.

91. The same paper says that it has been in a manner settled that the Rent Bill will be passed into law within eight to ten days. The zemindars, middlemen and ryots are saying that the Bill should not be passed so hastily. Still the Legislative Council has not abandoned the idea of passing it hastily into law. This proves how unsatisfactory the constitution of the Legislative Council in India is. There is not sufficient reason for passing the Bill hastily. The writer believes that there will be greater mischief if the Bill is passed now than if it is passed a few months afterwards. Lord Dufferin is going to set a very bad precedent by going to pass the Bill hastily against the wish of the whole country. It is not possible to criticise the amended Bill so hastily. There is also no probability that the Council will pay any attention to the criticisms of newspapers, when it has rejected the amendments proposed by the non-official members. The writer fully agrees with Mr. Evans in thinking that it is a mistake to apply the same law to Bengal and Behar, when the condition of the ryots of the one province is different from the condition of those of the other. If this is done, the Bengal ryots will be losers. The writer believes that much injustice has been done to the zemindars by the Bill, and what is more to be regretted is that the provisions made in it for the benefit of ryots will ultimately injure them.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

92. The same paper says that the railway is one of the places in which oppression is committed upon natives by Europeans. It learns from a correspondent that excess fare was charged at the Sealdah station on some 30 to 40 passengers for coming in intermediate carriages, though they had taken tickets for the third class. They said that they had got up into the intermediate carriages at the word of the station-master of Khulna. They appeared to be ignorant men. The writer cannot believe that so many persons combined to cheat the Railway Company. The writer supposes that they could not determine which class it was that they were getting into, owing to hurry, and that the station-master might have told them to get into intermediate carriages owing to the same reason. Under these circumstances the charging them extra fare is grossly unjust. The writer asks the Railway authorities the following questions:—Who is to blame if ignorant persons cannot get into the right carriage owing to there being no difference in the outward appearance of third class

An instance of oppression by Railway authorities.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

and intermediate class carriages? Who is to blame if they cannot read rightly the small letters which indicate the different classes owing to insufficient light? Why are not the intermediate class carriages made better than the third class carriages, when the fare of the former is one and a half times that of the latter? Is it not the duty of the station-masters to show ignorant people the different classes?

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 9th, 1885.

93. The same paper says that a political association has been established in Jessore as in Kishnagore. At the first meeting of the Association, the sum of Rs. 4,000 has been subscribed. If these associations calmly do their duties, the country will be benefited.

SAMAYA,
March 9th, 1885.

94. The *Samaya*, of the 9th March, is glad to hear that Lord Dufferin intends to remove the inconveniences of native passengers of Indian railways. The writer is surprised to read the account given by Mr. Broughton of the comforts and discomforts of native passengers. His account shows that he is either ignorant of their inconveniences, or is not bold enough to speak the truth. He says that places for waiting are provided at every station. There are few stations in which such places are provided. Third class passengers get no seats in their waiting-rooms, and these rooms are so dirty that no one can sit on the floor. There is no separate waiting-room provided for passengers of the intermediate class, who pay nearly double the fare of the third class passengers. Even in Howrah itself, no one can get a third class ticket without being ill-used by European officers of the railway, and by bribing the constables. Mr. Broughton says that for the last four or five years more than ten passengers are on no account allowed to sit in the same compartment. Mr. Broughton must be blind; otherwise why cannot he see things which are seen daily by every one except his good self? He says that there is excellent arrangement for the supply of drinking water, but the mischief is that people cannot get water even by crying at the top of their voices. The Brahmans employed for supplying water are generally employed for the purposes of cooking by the station-masters. One Hindoo and one Mahomedan cannot supply water to the numerous passengers of a railway train. All stations are not provided with privies. The few that have, have open privies, which females cannot resort to. The writer is glad that the Government of India has published a resolution asking the Railway authorities to provide third class carriages with privies.

SAMAYA.

95. The same paper says that there are few educated men amongst the police officers, and the consequence is that these officers are open to bribery. In every department officers are appointed after an examination, but there is no such examination in the Police Department. Here letters and recommendations are more respected than anywhere else. The writer asks Lord Dufferin to make such arrangements as would make the admission of a large number of educated men in this department possible.

SAMAYA.

96. The same paper hears that Mr. Ilbert wanted to appoint an educated native gentleman as Registrar of the Calcutta University. But such is the patriotic spirit of Mr. W. C. Bonerjee that he does not think any native gentleman to be fully qualified for the post. Every one thinks that the registrarship should be a distinct office, and that it should be filled up by a native. But there are traitors among the natives themselves.

SAMAYA.

97. The same paper thinks that the Government will ruin the ryots by passing the Tenancy Bill in haste.

The Tenancy Bill.

SAMAYA,
March 9th, 1885.

98. Referring to the examination lately held at Uttarpara, the same paper

The vernacular scholarship examination.

objects to the practice of writing the names and numbers of the candidates for vernacular scholarship examinations on their seats in English, which they do not understand. The Inspector sends question papers to the centres of examinations without ascertaining the number of candidates to be examined in each. The consequence is that in some places there are more papers than candidates and at others there are more candidates than papers. The writer calls the attention of the Director of Public Instruction to these irregularities.

SAMAYA.

99. A correspondent, writing to the same paper, complains that the Bhangamora branch post-office has no local habitation. The postmaster has several times

The branch post-office at Bhangamora.

represented the matter to the authorities, but with no effect, though the cost of raising a building will not exceed Rs. 100. Bhangamora is only four miles from Tarakesvara. The writer does not understand why letters should come to it circuitously through Chakdighi and not directly from Tarakesvara.

SAMAYA.

100. A correspondent, writing to the same paper, notices an accident at the Merwa station of the Bengal-North-

The Bengal North-Western Railway.

Western Railway. The writer complains that though the line has been opened from the 15th January, no arrangement has yet been made for lighting the platform. This is very bad, for there may be serious accidents in stations crowded with passengers and spectators. There are no waiting-rooms for females in this line.

101. The *Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 9th March, says that the disclosures of the cruelties practised in the Presidency Jail could not move the Lieutenant-Governor.

The cruelties in the Presidency Jail.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU,
March 9th, 1885.

He thought the stories of demoniac oppression to be exaggerated. Neither the visitors nor the Inspector-General of Jails, nor the Lieutenant-Governor have succeeded in proving the innocence of Mr. Beadon, though their sympathy was entirely on his side. The Lieutenant-Governor praises the Inspector-General of Jails for having the charge of 47 larger and 83 smaller jails. Perhaps he thinks that the officer who has to do so much may commit some blunders. The writer thinks that the Lieutenant-Governor, who has such a clear conscience, should increase the pay of the Inspector-General. The Lieutenant-Governor seems to say with some feeling that a responsible officer like Mr. Beadon having much to do has gone a little beyond his legitimate sphere of duties, but that it has done no harm. It has not increased the death-rate; it has simply made the prisoners more obedient. What a tender heart does the ruler of Bengal possess! Men died from the tortures of the back handcuff, but that does not increase the death-rate. The writer is not satisfied with the judgment of the ruler of Bengal. Nowhere, except in India, and under the government of civilians, can such grave offences be committed with impunity.

102. The same paper in noticing the speech of Lord Ripon at Leeds says that Englishmen are gradually coming to know what Lord Ripon has done for India, and how he has inspired the minds of the natives with loyalty. This is the time when Europeans and natives should co-operate heartily in all matters.

Lord Ripon's speech at Leeds.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

103. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains of the loss of life at Baraset from the effects of the bites of jackals. The English should repeal the Arms Act, otherwise poor people will be ruined.

Jackals at Baraset.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

104. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 10th March, has no doubt that the patwaris will abuse the power that will be entrusted to them. No amount of stringent rules will enable Government to check their oppression. In cases of dispute they will ruin either the zemindar or the ryot, and get

The Fatwari Bill.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 10th, 1885.

something for themselves. The officers of the zemindars are restrained by fear from oppressing their ryots, but the patwaris, who will be officers of Government, will have none to fear. The class of men from which the patwaris will be recruited regard money as more valuable than truth. They will always side with those that can pay. The ryots will have to pay excess fees for the maintenance of these patwaris. The writer cannot support the passing of this Bill into law.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 10th, 1885.

105. The same paper says that Mr. Inglis, the Joint-Magistrate of Ranigunge, went to inspect the condition of the coolies suffering from the effects of the famine, who had been employed in the Nagpore Railway. The writer praises the courtesy of Mr. Inglis. He likes to mix with natives, and never hates them. The inspection showed that the coolies were not compelled to carry earth to a distance of 400 feet. They were seen carrying earth from pits 10 feet deep to a distance of 200 feet, and throwing it on a mound 10 feet high. The writer does not yet know what report Mr. Inglis has submitted to higher authorities; but the facts in his opinion are these—

The relief operations on the Nagpore Railway.

- (1) There is no doubt that a large number of coolies have left the work, and that the object of relieving the famine-stricken has been defeated.
- (2) The rate given for carrying earth is not fair. The coolies get better rates in the neighbouring coal mines.
- (3) The poor people that came to work are not accustomed to digging earth, and so the contract rates were not favourable to them.
- (4) Arrangements for providing coolies with huts were not properly made, and the coolies have suffered greatly during the severity of the cold season.
- (5) The contractor throws the blame on the native sub-contractors, who he says have not made proper arrangements, though he has paid for them. But that is no matter to the public. Why should the coolies suffer for the fault of other people?

URDU GUIDE,
March 10th, 1885.

106. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 10th March, says that the reports about distress in the province are inaccurate because proper men are not deputed to enquire about it. The Editor recommends that, in order to remedy this, Government should prepare a list of competent men among Deputy Magistrates and Sub-Deputy Collectors who have served for five years, and form a Committee consisting of six of these officials and some competent non-officials to enquire about the probability of distress in a place, to ascertain its extent, and to suggest means by which it may be prevented.

Reports about distress.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
March 10th, 1885.

107. The *Samvād Purna Chandrodaya*, of the 10th March, says that the Imperial license tax was created for relieving famines. Government has imposed taxes with a view to protect the people when in distress, and should therefore grant a very large sum to relieve the sufferers from present famine.

The Imperial license tax.

SURABHI,
March 10th, 1885.

108. The *Surabhi*, of the 10th March, says that the enlargement of the size of the coupon in money-orders, wherein the sender states the purpose for which he is remitting money, to that of a post-card, and the introduction of the system of payment of rent by money-orders, are very useful arrangements. By the introduction of the system of payment of rent by money-orders, the preparation of forged receipts and the withholding of receipts after payment of rent will be put an end to.

Money orders.

SURABHI,
March 10th, 1885.

109. The same paper says that Mr. Griffiths, who has no great reputation for attainments, does not deserve to be the Principal and Chief Professor of the Presidency College. It is also a matter of regret that Mr. Robson will be appointed Officiating Principal of the Hooghly College over the head of the Rev. Lalbihari Dé, who is his senior by many years, and a competent Professor. No one need be told that the dark skin of the Rev. Lalbihari Dé is the obstacle in the way of his promotion.

Messrs. Griffiths and Robson.

110. The same paper says that Lord and Lady Dufferin are behaving very courteously towards natives. In the evening party in the Government House the other day, Lady Dufferin shook hands with invited native gentlemen, and made no distinction between natives and Europeans.

Courteousness of Lord and Lady Dufferin towards natives.

SURABHI.

111. The same paper says that Government intends to enrol new volunteers from among the ranks of Anglo-Indians and Eurasians. But inasmuch as a sufficient number of men will be taken from among those classes to keep the peace in the whole of vast India, it is indispensably necessary to form native volunteer corps.

Natives as volunteers.

SURABHI.

112. The same paper says that the Rent Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, is such that, if passed into law, it will injure both the ryots and the zemindars. The Hon'ble Mr. Amir Ali has entitled himself to the thanks of the public by supporting the cause of the ryots in the Council. The Editor hopes that he will watch that the interests of the ryots are not injured. Lord Dufferin and the members of the Council should remember that the Rent Bill was introduced with the object of putting an end to the oppressions upon the ryots, and of improving their present wretched condition. If that purpose is not fulfilled, it must be admitted that so much agitation and noise has proved vain. The amended Rent Bill has been introduced into the Council only a fortnight after its publication. Such a course is against the rule laid down by Lord Ripon that sufficient opportunity should be allowed to the public to criticize a Bill. Both the Anglo-Indian and native communities are condemning Government's attempt to pass hurriedly into law the Bill upon which depends the welfare or otherwise of the majority of the people of Bengal and Behar. Still Government is paying no heed to it. The Editor never thought that Lord Dufferin would support such an illegal and imprudent action.

The Rent Bill.

SURABHI.

113. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 11th March, says that Mr. Tawney, however learned he may be, is not fit for the post of Director of Public Instruction, and that Mr. Griffiths' attainments are not such as to make him fit for the post of Principal of the Presidency College. The same paper is sorry that Mr. Robson has been appointed Officiating Principal of the Hooghly College over the head of the Rev. Lalbehari Dé, who is his senior and is more experienced, because of the latter's dark skin. The public is impatiently waiting for the departure of Sir Rivers Thompson, who is grossly partial to his countrymen.

Recent educational appointments and the Lieutenant-Governor.

SAMACHAR CHAN-
DRIKA,
March 11th, 1885.

114. The *Samvád Purnachandrodaya*, of the 12th March, does not understand why Englishmen instead of going to forests for the purposes of hunting should go to inhabited localities. They are often killing men instead of game, and still they do not desist from hunting in villages. The reason of this is that European criminals are never punished in India. The writer thinks that the natives were better off during the Mahomedan period.

Killing of natives by Europeans.

SAMVAD
PURNACHANDRODAYA,
March 12th, 1885.

BANGABASI,
March 14th, 1885.

115. The *Bangabási*, of the 14th March, learns that, in the opinion of the *Pioneer*, the accounts of the special famine correspondent of the *Bangabási* are exaggerated, and that after enquiry Mr. Beames has pronounced them to be so. The writer says that Mr. Beames did not visit the tracts afflicted by the famine. Mr. Tayler, the Magistrate of Bankoora, paid a visit to the fields indeed, but he never entered any village. Even the Deputy Magistrate of Bishnupur did not go to the places afflicted. He sent his mohurir to make an enquiry, and this man made a report which was likely to be agreeable to his superiors. The writer lays great stress on the assertion that not only ten but thirty persons have died in the Sunamukhi thana in Bankoora of starvation during the present year. The writer challenges public officers to contradict his statement. The writer does not understand why the Government does not publish a report of the famine in Burdwan, Bankoora and Beerbhoom every month as promised by it in November last. The writer is sorry to say that Government is negligent of its duties, and that it is responsible for the deaths from the effects of starvation.

The agents of the *Bangabási* have opened two more annachhatras at Amra and at Lokpara in Beerbhoom in addition to the five already established in Bankoora and in Burdwan. Twenty more annachhatras will be necessary in Beerbhoom alone. The writer is at a loss to know how all the men are to be relieved.

BANGABASI.

116. The same paper says that the Tenancy Bill has been passed into law. The ryots have received certain new rights indeed, but the writer is afraid that the Act will increase litigation. The writer hopes that the zemindars of Bengal will try their best to conciliate their tenantry.

The Tenancy Act.

BANGABASI.

117. The same paper says that in spite of the opprobrious epithets applied to the natives by the Defence Association, the natives are thoroughly loyal. The natives prayed fervently for the victory of the English during the Pindar war: they displayed quite an effusion of loyalty in honour of the Prince of Wales and of Lord Ripon; they will never be disloyal to the English; they have worked hard to put the English in possession of India, and they will stand by the English firmly through thick and thin. The religion and literature of the natives teach them loyalty. Russia is not ignorant of the fact that Europeans sometimes abuse natives, but Russia is mistaken if she think that the natives will therefore be disloyal to the English. Antiquarians think that the ancestors of Europeans and natives lived together in the future theatre of war between England and Russia. The writer asks those Englishmen who are opposed to native interest to treat the natives in the way the Aryans, the givers of civilization and of power, ought to be treated.

The loyalty of the natives.

BANGABASI.

118. The same paper says that the people of India have their rulers, but they cannot expect much help from them, because they do not consider the protection of their subjects to be their chief duty. People are dying of hunger, but they do not admit it because that will prove their worthlessness. The little help they give is too small to be of much use. The writer appeals to natives to come forward to save the lives of their fellow countrymen.

Famine in Bengal.

BANGABASI.

119. The same paper says that the labourers of France do not get occupation owing to the dullness of trade. The French government has therefore sanctioned 120 lakhs of rupees to relieve them. It is trying to give them occupation, and is passing a law to help them; but India is not France. Here people of

The effects of civilization.

three districts have been suffering intensely for the last six months, but Government is as indifferent as ever.

BANGABASI,
March 14th, 1885.

120. Baboo Krishna Chandra Bandyopadhyaya, the special famine correspondent of the same paper, says that a large number of men will fall victims to starvation

Famine in Beerbhoom.
in the Rampurhat sub-division in Beerbhoom in May unless Government takes speedy measures to relieve them. The writer does not think that it is going to relieve them shortly, for it has taken no notice of the sufferings of the people from November last. The writer has travelled over 50 famine-stricken villages, and his impression that official reports do not represent the real state of things in the country has been confirmed. Government relies for information on petty officers, and hence these reports are so unreliable. The Magistrate of Beerbhoom came to Rampurhat on a tour of inspection, when people represented to him that the outturn of the crop would be two annas only; but he replied that it would be eight annas. Public officers never acknowledge their mistake. Mr. Beames has said that there will be no distress in Burdwan: how can he say directly the opposite thing just now?

The writer was at Lokpara on the 24th of Falgun. He visited several adjoining villages. These had a deserted appearance. The householders were all out in search of food. They had not returned though it was 3 o'clock. The families at home were all starving till then, and they were not certain whether they would get anything to eat during the course of the day and night.

The people of Lokpara have been suffering from malaria from the Bengali year 1882. Many have died from the effects of the malarious fever. Of the rest, 20 to 25 families have left the village owing to want of food. There are 70 men in the village, of which all are in want except 12. They have often to starve. Wages have gone down. The result of a house-to-house enquiry was that many were starving. At 9-30 in the night about 40 men came to the correspondent and began to weep round him. The writer gives a list of those who are in want.

Margan, with a population of 200 souls, has been suffering from scarcity from June last. The people have sold up everything. Unless speedily relieved, they will begin to die from April. Khetu Sadgop of this village has died of starvation. About 30 of the villagers have applied to the Magistrate for relief. There are no good roads in this village, though the people have punctually paid their road cess. The writer gives a list of those that are in want.

About 200 men are suffering from want of food at Mandra in the sub-division of Kandi in Moorshedabad. Seventeen families have left the village. About 100 men are starving. Fifty men have become weak and lean owing to want. The cultivators and the middle class men are the greatest sufferers. The villagers applied to the Magistrate for help in January, but no enquiry has yet been instituted. The writer thinks that tuccavi grants should be given in this village.

SAMVAD BAHIKA
Feb. 19th, 1885.

121. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 19th February, is glad to learn that Mr. Metcalfe, the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, spends a large number of days in camp. This will enable him to learn more of the country than he could from any number of official reports.

Mr. Metcalfe.

122. The same paper and the *Sikhyabundhu*, a monthly magazine, discuss the subject of selection of Uriya school text-books for use in the vernacular schools of Orissa, the former writing against the educational officers of that division, and the latter defending them in its turn. The arguments used by both the papers are generally those noticed before.

SAMVAD BAHIKA
&
SIKHYABUNDHU,
February.

Uriya school text-books.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Feb. 21st, 1885.

The Uriya language.

time the Uriya language will make room for Bengali.

SEBAKA.
Feb. 25th, 1885.

124. To this the *Sebaka* replies by stating that should any language become common for the whole of India in future, each provincial dialect now in use will

contribute certain words to the general stock. Until such time comes, the paper advises not to agitate the question seriously, as by that means a great amount of ill-feeling may be excited both in the minds of Uriyas and Bengalis.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Feb. 21st, 1885.

Collection of water-rates in Orissa.

125. The *Utkal Dipiká* is very glad to learn that henceforward the task of collecting the water-rates will be performed by the Collector's nazir just like that of collecting other rates in his charge. This will, in its opinion, bring a great deal of relief to the water-rate payers, who have been hitherto subject to maltreatment at the hands of officers belonging to the Canal Revenue Department.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

126. Referring to the speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal at the annual dinner of the Trades' Association of Calcutta, the same paper remarks that His Honor was not charitable in his utterances, and that he has no sympathy with the advancement of the natives.

Sir Rivers Thompson's speech at the Trades' Dinner.

UTKAL DARPAN,
Feb. 24th, 1885.

Repairs of the temple of Jagannath.

127. The *Utkal Darpan*, of the 24th February, regrets that the temple of Jagannath, at Pooree, lies uncared for, as no steps are taken to repair it. It therefore proposes that the Secretaries of the local associations in Orissa should ask for donations for the above object from such rich people as might consent to contribute towards the repair fund of the temple. Such donations, when they are received, may be remitted to the Secretary of the Temple Repair Committee at Pooree.

UTKAL DARPAN.

128. In an article headed the "Legislative Council," the same paper makes the following remarks:—"The Bills which are now introduced into the Council and

The Legislative Council.

the laws which are passed by it are all introduced by the Government. The people are never given the opportunity to make suggestions or say anything in respect of the Bills brought before the Legislative Council. Most of the Bills now introduced are such that the people do not want them, and that may in the long run ruin their interest." It then concludes the article with the following remarks:—"Time demands the necessary changes, and it is, we presume, the duty of an enlightened Government to put an end to the present unsatisfactory state of things, and call upon every municipal body, which has been entrusted with independent charge, to elect a member to represent it in the Legislative Council."

SEBAKA,
Feb. 25th, 1885.

The budget of the Cuttack Municipality.

129. The *Sebaka*, of the 25th February, makes the following remarks on the municipal budget of the Cuttack Municipality for 1885-86:—

"One thing is sufficiently clear, namely, the smallness of income, compared with the ever-increasing demand of expenditure under different heads. The most difficult problem that shall henceforward tax the energies of our new Commissioners will be the invention of measures leading to better income, and on the satisfactory solution of this question will rest their credit as an administrative body. At the same time we cannot help thinking that the majority of the Commissioners, who owe their honorary posts to the favour of the rate-payers, and who hope to be re-elected after a period of three years hence, will be slow to countenance any measure that may tend in any way to pinch the pockets of their constituents. Thus the only practical

work that lies before them is to revise the figures under different heads of expenditure, and if need be to transfer something from one head to the other." It then closes the article with the following observations:—"In this and other ways the Municipal Commissioners may make the best of their present income and effect little reforms that may prove useful in the end. There are many wants of the town, and we cannot believe that they can be supplied at once; but the Commissioners may act in such a way as to effect certain improvements every year. We shall quote an instance—They may make it a point with them to enlarge and metal a new road every year. Thus in a single decade the Cuttack town will be beautifully lined by broad streets, leading from one of its ends to the other. We beg to close this article by advising our Commissioners to serve the rich and the poor with an equal sense of justice, and not to bring forward proposals that may benefit the one at the sacrifice of the interests of the other."

130. The same paper rejoices to learn that the Maharajah of Durbhunga has made up his mind to proceed on a tour to England. It is of opinion that the presence of such distinguished visitors in that country will help to bring India and England in closer contact with each other.

SEBAKA,
Feb. 25th 1885.

131. The joy of the same paper knows no bounds in announcing the fact that Dr. Rajendra Lal Mitra has been elected President of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, an honorary post which was generally held by Europeans for the last 100 years.

SEBAKA.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 14th March 1885.

